



# Arizona Department of Public Safety

**- For Immediate Release -**

August 21, 2008

## **Department of Public Safety Officer Seizes 394 Pounds of Marijuana during a Traffic Stop on Interstate 10**

On August 11, 2008, at 8:45 AM, the Arizona Department of Public Safety conducted a traffic stop on a 2008 Chevrolet Tahoe on Interstate 10, milepost 270 (approximately 10 miles east of Tucson) for a traffic violation. During the interview conducted by the Officer the driver displayed indicators that were consistent with criminal behaviors. A consent search was conducted on the vehicle.

The Officer deployed his canine "Zger" which alerted on the interior of the vehicle. This led to the discovery of 17 bales of marijuana weighing 394 pounds. The marijuana was seized and the driver of the vehicle, Jose Ramon Casillo Rios, age 35, a resident of Mexico, was arrested and booked into the Pima County Jail. He was charged with violation of ARS 13-3405, Possession of Marijuana, Possession of Marijuana for Transportation and Sale.

*The mission of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, one of the most dynamic state-level law enforcement agency in United States, is to protect human life and property by enforcing state laws, deterring criminal activity, assuring the safety of the motoring public on Arizona's highways and providing vital scientific, technical and operational support to other criminal justice agencies. The Department, also one of Arizona's largest law enforcement agencies with some 2,200 sworn and civilian employees, consists of four divisions – Highway Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Criminal Justice Support and Agency Support. The Department is headquartered in Phoenix with offices located in more than 80 communities within Arizona's 15 counties.*

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